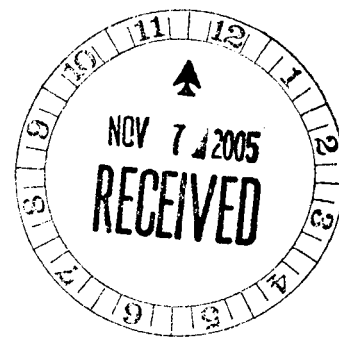


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P O Box 131 Center Point, IA., 52213-0131 319-849-1844
Tom F. Neenana, Executive Director



November 1, 2005

Mr. Vernon Williams
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K St. NW
Washington, D. C., 20423-0001

215107
via FAX

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Dear Secretary Williams:

Reference is made to AB 33 (Sub No. 143X), which is a proposed abandonment of a Union Pacific Railroad line between Belmond and Thornton in Wright and Cerro Gordo counties in Iowa.

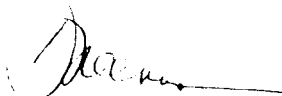
We have not been able to finalize negotiations to acquire this land for conversion to a trail in an interim period, prior to possible reactivation of rail service. We are in contact with the railroad and believe that negotiations are continuing on a favorable note.

We do however require additional time to conclude these negotiations and ask that the Board extend our negotiation time another six months, since the time previously allotted will expire on November 10.

A copy of this request is being faxed to the Union Pacific Railroad office in Chicago and in Omaha. Ten copies are being forwarded to your office by mail this day.

We anticipate the railroad's agreement to the extension of this time period. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,


Tom F. Neenan